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Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTIA 07414 051434Z

46
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-02

SCCT-01 SY-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 USSS-00 A-01 OPR-02 /073 W
---------- 009794
O 051419Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5533

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7414

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CASC, CI
SUBJECT: AMERICAN RELIGIOUS AND MIRISTAS

1. LOCAL AP CORRESPONDENT BILL NICHOLSON APPROACHED EMBOFF MORNING NOV 5 TO SEEK INFORMATION CONCERNING AMERICAN NUNS AND PRIESTS WHO, ACCORDING TO GOC STATEMENT OF NOV 4, ARE SOUGHT BY AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION WITH SHELTERING OF TERRORIST FUGITIVES.

2. EMBOFF SAID, FIRST, THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE NO AMERICANS HAD BEEN DETAINED; SECOND, THAT EMBASSY HAD OF COURSE NOTED GOC STATEMENT; AND THIRD, THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR HIM TO COMMENT FURTHER.

3. NICHOLSON SAID IN EFFECT "COME ON, WE KNOW YOU HAVE TWO NUNS." EMBOFF REFUSED TO COMMENT.

4. NICHOLSON THEREUPON WENT TO CONSULATE (LOCATED IN ANOTHER PART OF CITY) ALC ASKED CONSUL BROWNELL FOR INFORMATION ON HOME TOWNS OF TWO NUNS, SISTER HELEN BARBARA NELSON AND SISTER MARGARET LIPSIO. CITING PRIVACY ACT, BROWNELL REFUSED TO GIVE OUT INFORMATION.

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5. NICHOLSON HAS ALREADY FILED STORY BASED ON GOC

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STATEMENT, AND IS WORKING ON A FOLLOW UP. IN ADDITION
TO US ANGLE, HE WAS INTERESTED IN EFFECT ON CHURCH-STATE
RELATIONSHIPS AND ON COMMITTEE FOR PEACE.

6. NICHOLSON THEREUPON CALLED PRESS ATTACHE IN ANIMATED
MANNER TO MAKE FORMAL REQUEST FOR THE PROPER SPELLING, THE
HOME TOWNS AND THE AGES OF THE AMERICANS INVOLVED. USIS
OFFICER WAS ABLE TO GIVE HIM PROPER SPELLING OF NAMES
AND SUGGESTED THAT NICHOLSON CHECK FURTHER WITH CHURCH
AUTHORITIES.
POPPER

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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